

### **Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics**

**Area Unique Identifier:** CO-060-025

**Acreage:** 3,028.5

**Is the area of sufficient size?**

Yes ☒ No ☐

#### **Description**

The unit of BLM land identified as CO-060-025 is adjacent to the Powderhorn Wilderness meeting the size requirement criteria. The northern boundary is roads 3034e, 3034e1 and 3034h. The eastern boundary is road 3034e1 and 3119. The western boundary is road 3034 and 3165. The southern boundary is the Powderhorn Wilderness.

**(1) Does the area appear to be natural?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

#### **Description**

This parcel contains high topographical relief and is heavily wooded. West Dempsey Gulch runs through the parcel from south to north. The vegetation within this area includes sage brush, pine, aspen, cottonwood, willow, various grasses and wildflowers. Along road 3034 are numerous piles of logs that are the result of thinning with removal in the area. This logging has been approved by the BLM and is being monitored. Along with logging, another human use for this area is seasonal camping. One frequently used campsite has resulted in minimal alterations of the natural landscape. There is a large fire pit that has been enhanced with a metal grill box and several portions of cut down trees are being used for seating. The remains of a wooden structure can also be found to the southwest of road 3119a. There are several closed roads within this parcel ranging in visibility and use. Some roads still appear to be being used by motorized vehicles while others are regenerating with vegetation. Some closed roads have become so overgrown that they are no longer visible.

**(2) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

**Description**

This parcel is adjacent to the Powderhorn Wilderness and there are only two roads that can be used to access it. The landscapes high topography and heavily wooded areas provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Annually this area accommodates ±300 visitors.

- (3) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

**Description**

This area provides outstanding opportunities for unconfined and primitive recreation such as hiking, backpacking, hunting and wildlife viewing as well as access to the Powderhorn Wilderness.

- (4) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value)?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐

**Description**

Within this parcel there are areas along the northern and eastern boundary that provide excellent vantage points for scenic views. This area contains high levels of lynx and potential sage grouse habitat along with low levels of elk winter habitat, mule deer winter habitat and severe mule deer habitat.

## Summary of Analysis

Area Unique Identifier: CO-060-025

### Result of Analysis:

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? ☒ Yes ☐ No
2. Does the area appear to be natural? ☒ Yes ☐ No
3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive or unconfined type of recreation? ☒ Yes ☐ No
4. Does the area have supplemental values? ☒ Yes ☐ No

### Check one

X  The area, or portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

### Prepared by (team members):

John Millea

Corrie Barbour

### (Name, Title, Date)

### Reviewed by District or Field Manager:

Name: Brian St George Title: Field Manager  
Date: 7/31/13

\*This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.